

CLARK, LINCOLN, AND WHITE PINE counties
GROUNDWATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
SCOPING MEETING

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

On Tuesday, August 16, 2011

At 5:00 p.m.

At the Lincoln County Alamo Complex
121 Joshua Tree Street
Alamo, Nevada

Reported by: Deborah Ann Hines, CCR #473, RPR

1 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Thanks, everybody,
2 for coming. I'm John Godec. I've been asked to help
3 facilitate this. This is one of a series of meetings
4 that BLM is doing around and in the basin over a
5 period of three weeks. This is our third week.

6 So let me explain how we've been doing it
7 and then how I think we're going to try to do it
8 tonight because we're in a smaller space than we
9 typically are in. But what we tried to do is use the
10 first part of the meeting as kind of a
11 question-and-answer chance for you to talk with the
12 experts who wrote this document. You see the posters
13 that we've got up.

14 When you came in, you got a copy of this
15 Frequently Asked Questions thing which we're calling
16 kind of an executive summary to the executive
17 summary. It's an extensive document, as you know,
18 and the full executive summary of this thing is a
19 hundred pages long. And, by the way, if you'd like a
20 copy of it, if you don't have a copy of it, feel free
21 to grab one on the way out. We've got a few extras.

22 We also have a newsletter on this project; a
23 written comment form. If you've got something that
24 you'd like to put in writing, please feel free to jot
25 it down, leave it with us tonight or take it home

1 with you and send it in. If you know folks around
2 town that weren't able to come tonight, and you know
3 they've got comments, please feel free to take some
4 of these along with you and pass it on to them as
5 well.

6 That being said, what I think we're going to
7 do is move into the formal public hearing portion of
8 this. And for the formal public hearing part of
9 this, as you notice we have a court reporter here
10 which means that everything that you tell us tonight
11 for the official public record will be included in
12 the environmental impact study when it's complete.
13 If you have specific questions that you ask in this
14 format, those questions will be answered in that
15 document.

16 What we're going to do, and I think we'll
17 kind of try this, we may turn this into a little bit
18 more of an informal session, but I assume that some
19 of you have specific comments that you would like to
20 make about this. Yes? Do you? Can you give me an
21 idea? Could you raise your hand and give me an idea
22 of how many of you might?

23 Okay. What we've normally been doing when
24 people come in is asking them to fill out speaker
25 cards. We're a small enough group here I don't think

1 we need to mess with that. You can stay right where
2 you are. What I'll do here is turn it over to our
3 public hearing officer, Dr. Mike Dwyer, who can
4 explain how this is going to work.

5 Is that all right, Mike?

6 DR. MICHAEL DWYER: Sure. All right.
7 Sounds good.

8 Welcome, everyone. Actually kind of nice to
9 have a little smaller crowd and some familiar faces
10 here.

11 The purpose of this part of the hearing,
12 this formal part of the hearing, is to hear your
13 comments on this document. This is the Clark,
14 Lincoln and White Pine Counties Groundwater
15 Development Project Draft Environmental Impact
16 Statement. So this document was prepared by an
17 environmental consulting firm, AECOM. A lot of the
18 folks in with the maps are from AECOM. They
19 developed this under a contract with the Bureau of
20 Land Management and we directed what's in this
21 document.

22 We created this document in response to an
23 application that we got from the Southern Nevada
24 Water Authority in 2004 for rights-of-way across
25 public land to construct and operate facilities to

1 transport groundwater from east Central Nevada to
2 Southern Nevada.

3 Let me be clear that at this point no
4 decision has been made by the Bureau of Land
5 Management on that application. The National
6 Environmental Policy Act requires that before we make
7 a decision on that kind of application that we
8 document and consider the impacts that go with that
9 proposed action. This document is the vehicle to do
10 that. So what we'd tried to do here is capture what
11 are the impacts, and this document will go in front
12 of the decision-maker who's required by law to
13 consider those impacts before they make a decision on
14 that right-of-way application.

15 This hearing is your opportunity really to
16 help us make this as clear, as comprehensive and as
17 accurate as it possibly can be. Seven alternatives
18 are analyzed in this document, six of them are called
19 action alternatives, and they're varying production
20 rates of groundwater and involve different water
21 basins. The seventh alternative is a No Action
22 alternative, which analyzes the impacts if we were to
23 deny this application.

24 Just a couple of things about what this
25 hearing is not about. This is not about the

1 allocation of water rights. That is not a decision
2 that the BLM makes, that is a decision in the hands
3 of the state government, the State of Nevada, and
4 specifically the Nevada State Engineer. The state
5 engineer has received a separate application from the
6 water authority for water rights associated with this
7 project. And the state engineer will conduct
8 hearings on that application starting next month for
9 a couple of months before he makes that decision.

10 Second, we really have not been running
11 these meetings like debates. We're not here to
12 defend what's in this document, this is a draft
13 document. So what we want to do is hear what you
14 think about this, hear how we can make it better. So
15 this is our time in this meeting to listen to what
16 you have to say. So if you ask a question during
17 this, and we can be a little more informal here, but
18 we haven't been answering a lot of questions in this
19 back and forth kind of environment, but we have a
20 bunch of experts in the room, hydrology people,
21 geology, biology, socioeconomic, so if you think of a
22 question while we're taking testimony from folks,
23 please feel free to stand up, walk in the meeting
24 over here, find somebody with a name tag and get your
25 question answered.

1 As John said we want to hear from everybody
2 that has something to say. I don't think that will
3 be an issue tonight but we've been limiting folks to
4 five minutes, so maybe we'll use that as a starting
5 place, and I think we have plenty of time.

6 Written comments, by the way, carry just as
7 much weight as if you were to stand up and make a
8 public comment tonight. If you don't feel like
9 standing up and doing so, please give us comments in
10 writing. And we've extended the comment period to
11 October 11th of 2011 to submit written comments.

12 Regarding audience participation, please
13 treat the speaker as you would like to be treated
14 when it's your turn up here. Please don't interrupt
15 the speaker, and please know that audience reactions
16 or comments will not be part of the transcript.

17 Finally let me explain what happens from
18 this point forward and then I'll sit down and give
19 you the floor. The comments that you make here
20 tonight, along with all of those that we collect at
21 the public meetings and all those comments that we
22 get in writing, will be used to develop the final
23 version of this document.

24 The final version will include a comment
25 response document that actually shows what we've done

1 with every comment we've received, how it's been
2 used. When the final version of this is ready for
3 release, we'll publish a notice in the Federal
4 Register, as well as in the local newspaper, and
5 we'll post it on our BLM website. We'll post a
6 notice of availability of the final document. A
7 decision on the right-of-way application can be made
8 any time after 30 days, 30 days after that notice of
9 availability is published. And when a decision is
10 finally made, a record of decision will be published
11 in the Federal Register, in newspapers and posted on
12 the web.

13 So finally I'd just like to extend my thanks
14 to everybody for being here. I've worked on a lot of
15 environmental impact statements in my 31 years with
16 the BLM, I work for the Ely District Office of the
17 BLM, and they're always better for vigorous public
18 review and comment, so thank you for being here.

19 And with that, John, I'll turn it over to
20 our facilitator and we'll open the floor to folks
21 that would like to speak.

22 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: How about if we
23 just kind of make it a little bit easier, why don't
24 we start from the back and kind of work our way
25 forward, is that all right? Anybody in the back row

1 have something in particular?

2 Second row?

3 DR. MICHAEL DWYER: One last thing, John,
4 just for those folks that came in late, when you
5 stand up and make a public comment, everything that
6 you say will be recorded by our court reporter here
7 verbatim, so it will become part of the public
8 record. Thanks.

9 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: What I'll do is ask
10 you to please state your name, spell your name and
11 give us your home address, or your mailing address
12 actually. All right? So who has something to say?
13 Who would like to start?

14 ED HIGBEE: I'll start because I know after
15 I do there's going to be many of you guys that want
16 to take part. I just want to thank the BLM for being
17 here and going through this.

18 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Can you give us
19 your name and address.

20 ED HIGBEE: Ed Higbee, E-d, H-i-g-b-e-e,
21 junior.

22 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: And your mailing
23 address?

24 ED HIGBEE: P.O. Box 242, Alamo, Nevada
25 89001.

1 The first question I would like answered,
2 and I know probably some of this stuff is addressed,
3 let me confess I've not totally read all this EIS
4 stuff, but these are some of the questions that I
5 have, and I know some of the other people that I've
6 talked to have the same questions.

7 Number one, is this needed? Is this
8 pipeline up through here, is it needed to come up and
9 try to suck some of these valleys, and we think it
10 will suck them dry in time, to take them down and put
11 them into Las Vegas? I don't know it's needed, for
12 one thing.

13 And another question I have is there going
14 to be a trigger mechanism to where out in these
15 aquifers, when they do pull down to a certain level,
16 are we going to shut down a billion dollar pipeline?
17 And that's a question to me that the only way you can
18 deal with that is have money already set and a bond
19 in place to where if it does go below that certain
20 point, then the money goes to the counties to pay for
21 it. I don't know, because they're not going to shut
22 it down. Does anybody believe they'll shut it down
23 until there's nothing else to suck? I wouldn't think
24 so. I'm glad you think that.

25 And then we'll have all -- if the time comes

1 they do put this pipeline in, there's going to be all
2 kinds of mitigation that are going to come right
3 across. Of course they'll travel right through the
4 white sage flat, I would bet, because that makes --
5 that's the easiest place to go. It's downhill. And
6 it will flat destroy these things. It will destroy
7 some of the plants and different things that we have
8 out in these valleys. It will never been the same.

9 But I know it will never be the same. You
10 can't make any of these roads back to where they ever
11 was originally. It's not going to happen. So we
12 need to be very careful on that, where this thing
13 goes. I would like to have some input of local
14 people, where some of these -- even this transmission
15 line we're dealing with. If we could have a little
16 more help where that goes would be helpful to us.

17 And some of these hydrologists out here in
18 the other room, where does this water come from? I
19 know it doesn't rain enough around here to make these
20 aquifers full of water, so do we know where it comes
21 from? So I think that needs to be answered. I would
22 like this to be stalled until we know where this
23 water comes from. And if there's any chance that the
24 aquifer can be recharged, maybe it can, I don't know.
25 Does anybody? Nobody is raising their hand. This

1 isn't a give and take, it's my comments.

2 And if this could be done scientifically, I
3 would like it to be done scientifically and not
4 politically. We know that if Clark County, they have
5 the votes to do about anything they basically want to
6 in the state of Nevada. So if we can do this
7 scientifically, and if it can be proved it will never
8 pull these aquifers down and cause desertification to
9 us up in the lands then I guess I can go with it. I
10 don't mind people, you know, having progress in this
11 life. But if it's going to pull these aquifers down
12 and it's going to make us all a worse desert than we
13 already are and change what we are and who we are,
14 then I'm going to have to oppose it. So thanks.

15 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: I think this
16 gentleman over here actually had his hand up first.
17 Did you want to go next?

18 ED UEHLING: Before I make any comment, I'd
19 like to ask a question.

20 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: At this particular
21 point we'd like to do this as a public hearing, if
22 you've got something.

23 ED UEHLING: Would it be possible to -- they
24 gave no information. What is this process for the
25 BLM in the whole process? What is the beginning?

1 What's the end? From talking to these people
2 outside, they're saying that this is already been
3 predetermined, that Congress has declared this
4 pipeline is legal to be built through the BLM land,
5 so are we just wasting our time here? Is that true?
6 What's the process?

7 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: The answer is, the
8 bottom line is this is not a waste of time, but the
9 document that you have before you is the study that's
10 been going on for the past six years that looks at
11 the consequences of a request that's been made by the
12 Southern Nevada Water Authority.

13 And as Mike mentioned before, this is a
14 draft. This is the basic information that's been
15 presented. This is your opportunity to comment on
16 that information and add to it as you see fit, or if
17 you have additional questions, they can be asked in
18 the context here and they will be answered in the
19 final document format.

20 ED UEHLING: Where is it in the scheme, the
21 whole scheme, this whole project from beginning to
22 having to the thing built and water running?

23 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: If you look at the
24 executive summary, the timeframe on this goes out --

25 ED UEHLING: I'm not talking about the

1 timeframe, I'm talking about actions. Who has
2 authority? Where does it start? Where does it end?

3 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: That's a pretty
4 broad --

5 ED UEHLING: Where is the BLM in this
6 process?

7 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: BLM is responsible
8 for the land on which the pipeline would be located.
9 You're asking a very broad question, and this isn't
10 the time for the debate. I'll do my best to answer
11 the basics, but if you look at the Q and A we
12 prepared, I think it answers most of what you just
13 asked.

14 Ma'am, did you have a comment that you
15 wanted to make?

16 LYNDA YOUNCE: Yes, I do.

17 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Would you mind
18 giving us your name and spelling it.

19 LYNDA YOUNCE: My name is Lynda Younce,
20 Y-o-u-n-c-e. And it's L-y-n-d-a. P.O. Box 416,
21 Alamo, Nevada.

22 I've been a resident in Alamo for the last
23 ten years. And I knew early on about this project
24 partly because I have family in construction and
25 involved in some of this stuff, and I've had concerns

1 the whole way. Do we have an oversight committee for
2 this or is it already established or is there going
3 to be an oversight committee established that
4 communicates directly with the locals on some of
5 their concerns ongoing, not just now? I mean, it's
6 clear that Clark County has got some desperate needs
7 but we have had these concerns for quite some time
8 and really no place to voice them, other than midair,
9 because we're finally getting to the part where here
10 we are.

11 We've all known about it. There's been
12 major concerns in the community, and we need
13 someplace that doesn't take this another year or two
14 to find out what kind of contingency plans may be
15 established in this community and every other
16 community that may be impacted by this.

17 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Anyone else?

18 Yes, sir?

19 PHIL ANDERSON: My name is Phil Anderson,
20 P-h-i-l. My address is Post Office Box 172, Alamo,
21 has been for almost a year and a half. Prior to that
22 I lived in Las Vegas, Nevada.

23 And I have several concerns about this.
24 I've seen several projects similar to this turn sour
25 on the people that lost their water. And I won't

1 live long enough that it will have a big effect on
2 me, but I think on the young people living in this
3 area and those who come here future time, there will
4 be an effect.

5 Las Vegas wants the water so that they can
6 grow, they can bring in more people and sell them a
7 connection to their water company for an exorbitant
8 amount of money and collect water dues for those
9 people and make a big profit on them. These are
10 people who own the water company who want to make the
11 big profits. I think we need to look where the money
12 is going for this project.

13 Right now Las Vegas water rates are about
14 one quarter of what we pay for the same amount of
15 water here in Alamo. Why have they got a big water
16 problem down there and we don't have an even bigger
17 one? We need the water as much as they do.

18 Sure, we're not supposed to grow, right?
19 We're supposed to stay stagnant or actually become a
20 ghost town so that they can have the water that's
21 here. Where did the water come from? I'll tell you
22 where it came from, it's been accumulating in these
23 valleys for thousands of years. The water table
24 that's here has not built up over the last couple of
25 years or ten years or a hundred years, but it's been

1 building up over thousands of years.

2 I asked the question earlier will the water
3 table be affected by drawing down huge amounts of
4 water that they want to draw down, and he showed me
5 charts. And, yes, it will. The water table will go
6 down. What does that mean to you? That means that
7 if your water comes from a well, it's going to cost
8 more to pump it, you're going to have to go deeper to
9 get it, and eventually it may be so deep that it's
10 not even worthwhile doing it so let's get out. No
11 way we can get water anymore.

12 Folks, your water is important to you. You
13 need to keep it. But we need to ask ourselves some
14 other questions. It was asked what does the BLM have
15 to do with it. Yes, they have to do with the land.
16 So are we going to destroy the land? Well, let me
17 ask a question there. Was there a threshold put on
18 if we make this study and it goes beyond the
19 threshold, we do not do the project or will it just
20 be approved anyhow? Who makes that decision? Who
21 makes it for the BLM? Is it somebody that's going to
22 be affected by it? I don't think so. I don't think
23 they're going to be affected at all by it.

24 Who makes the decision as to whether to give
25 out the permits for the water? It's somebody in

1 Carson City, and we should know who it is so that we
2 can get rid of them and get them dis-elected if they
3 don't do what we, as a people, are going to benefit
4 from.

5 You've never seen one of these projects be
6 reversed or turned off. It never will be. And if
7 you lose your water for these people, they'll suck it
8 dry and they don't care because they'll be making
9 their big bucks. And look at who some of the people
10 who benefit. I think you'll find some of our leaders
11 in our government will be benefitted by it, them and
12 their families and so forth. I think you need to
13 look where the money is going to be flowing before
14 this decision is made.

15 Let me ask you a question. You know, it's
16 important that we know who makes these decisions but
17 is there criteria establish for these decisions?

18 DR. MICHAEL DWYER: Well, yeah. You know,
19 the National Environmental Policy Act is the law that
20 says whoever this decision maker is, and it starts
21 with the Secretary of the Interior and can be
22 delegated downward through the Bureau of Land
23 Management.

24 PHIL ANDERSON: Can we trust their judgment?

25 DR. MICHAEL DWYER: They must take into

1 consideration the impacts that are documented in this
2 document.

3 PHIL ANDERSON: Who's familiar with the
4 desert tortoise? You know what they did, they spent
5 a lot of money and they studied whether the desert
6 tortoise was going to be able to survive while these
7 subdivisions were being made and they found out that,
8 well, we have to charge everybody that's going to do
9 a subdivision some money to study the impact. Now
10 what did they do with the tortoises? They went out
11 and charged people money to gather up the tortoises
12 and put them in a tortoise place and then that wasn't
13 a good place for them so what did they do with them,
14 they killed them. They killed the tortoises. What
15 are they going to do with you? You're kind of like a
16 tortoise. You're not important. If you don't like
17 it, we're going to do it anyhow. And if it's not
18 good for you, we'll get rid of you somehow.

19 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Phil, can you wrap
20 up a little bit. We're trying to keep this to five
21 minutes.

22 PHIL ANDERSON: I can wrap it up very
23 easily. I think we ought to fight tooth and nail to
24 not let them take this water, because those aquifers
25 that have been there for thousands of years are not

1 replaceable. The amount of water we get in this
2 Great Basin will not replace them in thousands of
3 years to come. And every time we draw down below the
4 level that's usable for us, we're in trouble. And
5 they'll never allow it to build back up because they
6 won't allow it to build back up long enough.

7 DR. MICHAEL DWYER: Thank you.

8 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Yes, sir?

9 JOHN SANDERS: I'm John Sanders, J-o-h-n,
10 S-a-n-d-e-r-s. My address is HC 61 Box 15, Hiko,
11 Nevada 89017.

12 I run a ranching operation in Lincoln County
13 and in White Pine County. Both ends of the property
14 will be greatly impacted by this potential project.
15 I realize that BLM does not have any authority over
16 the state water law and issues but I think there's a
17 couple of important points I would like to bring up.

18 On this one handout that you gave us, it
19 talks about the SNWA proposed project to develop more
20 than 176,000 acre feet per year for five different
21 basins. At this point I am aware of only one basin
22 that they've even began the process of determining
23 how much water yield there is and how many they can
24 take. Delamar Valley and Dry Lake Valley, which
25 concern the operation that I'm on on the south end,

1 I'm aware of no applications or any production wells
2 being proposed.

3 There were a number of monitoring wells that
4 went into the ground. They told us they were
5 monitoring wells. They broke state water
6 regulations. Monitoring well is no more than a
7 three-inch casing. These wells were drilled with
8 21-inch casings. We asked them if they were
9 production wells and they assured us, oh, no, no, no,
10 they're not production wells.

11 This comment that you have right here saying
12 176,000 acre feet out of five basins shows that they
13 have intentions of pumping. So my question becomes
14 to the BLM is how is it possible to develop an
15 environmental impact statement when we don't even
16 know where they're targeting to pump in these other
17 valleys? We can approve it and then they we can
18 drill more wells or whatever they need to do and it
19 wasn't involved in the study.

20 So I think there's some very important
21 issues that they need to identify exactly where these
22 production, this, you know, groundwater mining
23 activity is going to go on, and that needs to be
24 included before this EIS can even be complete. Can't
25 make any decisions on it.

1 The other end of the ranch is in Spring
2 Valley, North Spring Valley. We're completely
3 surrounded by production wells on this project that
4 will be filling the pipelines.

5 You talked a little bit on page five about
6 the mathematical computer monitoring. I'm wondering
7 exactly how familiar the BLM staff is on this water
8 model that they've produced. I don't know if you
9 realize that there's a thousand kilometer area,
10 thousand square kilometer area per square on the
11 grid. That means that they can make some general,
12 very general observations and predictions of what
13 might happen, but that one spring that produces a
14 gallon a minute that my ranch depends on, that is so
15 valuable that we might have 20 or 30 or 40 miles of
16 buried pipeline to maintain to carry that water and
17 distribute it around the range, that one spring that
18 produces one gallon a minute may not even show up on
19 their modeling. And if it does, will it be affected,
20 yes or no plus or minus 50 feet drawdown?

21 You know, they can say, oh, no, it won't be
22 affected, it will only be 48 feet drawdown but that
23 spring might be adversely affected in 12 feet
24 drawdown. We don't know. And so those critical
25 water sources have not been identified in the study.

1 The mathematical model is not sufficient to make any
2 determination on those. And I think the BLM needs to
3 be looking at the specifics of that water modeling.

4 That will be addressed I'm sure in Carson
5 City, but BLM also needs to be looking at that,
6 because when the springs start drying up on the
7 hillside, it's going to affect everything, not just
8 our cattle operation but all the wildlife and
9 recreation and vegetation and everything.

10 I have a question about mitigation. You
11 know, we talk about mitigation. You know, a lot of
12 times, well, if you're going to put a gate, well,
13 we'd really rather have a cattle guard than a gate
14 because cattle guards are designed to be left open,
15 right? Makes a lot of sense. But when we're talking
16 about this spring, what's our mitigation? Is BLM
17 going to approve me to spend a hundred thousand
18 dollars to drill a well to pump water for my cattle
19 to replace what the spring has lost?

20 You know, the state water engineer may
21 require them to help pay the bill, but does that not
22 exacerbate the problem? If the springs are going
23 dry, we don't need to drill another well, you know.
24 So looks like to me like the only mitigation that we
25 have is one that continues to complicate, you know,

1 the problems that might arise from this.

2 You know, we talked a little bit about --
3 Mr. Higbee talked a little bit about these white sage
4 flats. From a nutritional standpoint this is the
5 critical backbone of these ranching operations.
6 These white sage flats are high in protein, they're
7 highly palatable. The ability of that plant to
8 maintain its production level year in and year out
9 through the drought is important to our ranching
10 operations, as well as how well it sustains its
11 nutritive value. You know, it can sit there for
12 three years with no rain and when you turn it on it
13 still has some feed value as opposed to a lot of the
14 other forages that dry up and turn to straw and are
15 depleted over time.

16 All you have to do is drive during hunting
17 season, have somebody drive across the flat and three
18 more cars drive after it and you have a permanent
19 road. This white sage will not come back. We can go
20 to places that had fires a hundred years ago and
21 there's still no white sage. I don't know what
22 causes the germination and the establishment of the
23 seedlings, but those factors are not present in our
24 environment today. If it's rain, if it's temperature
25 or whatever, white sage does not germinate, it does

1 not establish and will be lost forever.

2 I guess we have to decide are golf courses
3 in Vegas more important than white sage flats. For
4 me and my operation and my personal belief, we need
5 to be maintaining this and I think that's what the
6 BLM has been charged with is maintaining the value,
7 the intrinsic value of these ranges up here. Thank
8 you.

9 DR. MICHAEL DWYER: Thanks.

10 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Anybody else?

11 ED UEHLING: My name is Ed Uehling, E-d,
12 U-e-h-l-i-n-g. I live in Las Vegas. I was referred
13 to -- you referred me to this statement that starts
14 off, What is this project all about. And you found
15 it necessary to repeat the propaganda that the
16 Southern Nevada Water District, water authority, is
17 giving out, the Las Vegas Valley Water District is
18 giving out.

19 You say, Historically Southern Nevada has
20 relied primarily on the Colorado River to meet its
21 water needs. That's normal. New Orleans relies on
22 the Mississippi River. They're not constructing a
23 pipeline to Oklahoma to bring water to New Orleans.
24 Chicago relies on Lake Michigan. Las Vegas relies on
25 the Colorado River. Yes, it's the only city on the

1 entire Colorado River in the entire Colorado -- large
2 city on the entire Colorado River system. So there's
3 nothing wrong with that.

4 And then you say, Reductions in flow over
5 recent years, I'll go into the -- let me just finish
6 the sentence, complicated river water rights
7 allocations, ongoing drought, and past growth in both
8 population and businesses in the southwestern U.S.
9 threaten to overuse available Colorado River water.

10 Reductions in flow and this ongoing drought
11 are the two basic -- it's the same thing. It's the
12 basic lie that's being told. There is 14 million --
13 there are 14 million acre feet of water in the
14 Colorado River system. The upper states use about
15 seven million and the lower states use the other
16 seven million that's left. There's a drought, yes.
17 In the Southwest there's always periods of drought,
18 but there is no serious drought on the Colorado
19 River.

20 And plus we have a lake that holds 25
21 million acre feet of water to put us through these
22 periods when there possibly might be a drought. The
23 river carries -- there's at least six million acre
24 feet of water to get down to Lake Mead, and usually
25 it's around seven or eight million acre feet of

1 water. And so there is no shortage of water. Las
2 Vegas only uses 300,000 acre feet, draws 300,000 acre
3 feet of water out of the lake. That's the allocation
4 for the State of Nevada. And right now I think we're
5 using like 200 or 220,000 acre feet per year. So
6 they don't even -- the use for Nevada is way below
7 what's needed.

8 But there's a big difference between seven
9 million acre feet and 300,000. And so where does the
10 rest of this water go? It goes down primarily to the
11 farms and where it's wasted, where a lot of it is
12 wasted with antiquated irrigation processes in the
13 Imperial Valley and in Arizona and other valleys in
14 Southern California.

15 So the notion of drought is totally false.
16 They've drawn down -- it's just bad resource
17 allocation. They've drawn down this 25 million acre
18 foot lake down to where it's about 10 or 11 million
19 is all that's left in the lake now.

20 Now because of the huge snow this year, yes,
21 it's coming up, and there will be other huge snows.
22 There's basically because of global warming, or
23 whatever you want to call it, there's 25 percent more
24 water in the rivers of the world than there was
25 before the -- then there has been in the past, which

1 is natural. As the oceans heat up, they will have
2 more evaporations, more evaporation and there will be
3 more fresh water on the land. So it's a total lie.

4 Complicated river water rights allocation.
5 That's the main issue. Complicated river water
6 rights. These are created by the federal government.
7 These are immutable rules that the federal government
8 says can't be changed, and there resides the problem.

9 Las Vegas offered to go down and pave the --
10 cement the irrigation ditches going into these farms
11 because they weren't before, and 300,000 acre feet of
12 water was being lost in the irrigation ditches, which
13 is the same amount of water that Las Vegas says it
14 needs now. Well, so that could have doubled the
15 water supply and it would have cost almost nothing,
16 much cheaper than this project.

17 Well, what happened? The complicated
18 federal water river rights rules prohibit that. You
19 cannot make a change of water between two states in
20 that way. So this is not rocket science, this is all
21 politics and incompetence and, etc.

22 Okay, past growth of both population and
23 businesses threaten to overuse the water. That's
24 just not true. There's plenty of water, it just has
25 to be allocated differently in the river, or from the

1 river I should say. And with that this pipeline is
2 just totally unnecessary.

3 Let's discuss the economic aspects of it
4 with the water authority. I pay for most of the
5 water I use, I pay \$4 per thousand gallons. That's
6 about \$1300 per acre foot of water in Las Vegas. And
7 even with that charge of water, this agency is so
8 incompetent that it has borrowed \$5 billion to do
9 projects, who knows what. It only has to transport
10 the water 20 miles, and it still can't finance
11 itself. It has to take from its reserves. It has to
12 increase its rate. It increased the rates last year
13 and the year previous, \$18 million each year.
14 Southern Nevada Water Authority just raised their
15 rates two weeks ago or four weeks ago. This whole
16 project is to cover up the incompetence. Now
17 imagine --

18 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Mr. Uehling, can
19 you please wrap up.

20 ED UEHLING: Okay. Just imagine if it costs
21 all the money that they make and charging \$4 per
22 thousand gallons to transport water 20 miles, how
23 much is it going to cost to transport water
24 300 miles? Twenty times as much? \$80 per thousand
25 gallons? That's like \$10,000 per acre foot. That's

1 what this agency -- that's what this agency is so
2 incompetent, that's what they'll do. And, sir,
3 there's no profits with this agency. Yes, Patricia
4 Mulroy make \$350,000 a year but there are no profits.
5 There's all losses, incredible bureaucracy, just full
6 of lies.

7 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Anyone else?
8 Yes, sir?

9 BEVAN LISTER: Bevan Lister, B-e-v-a-n,
10 L-i-s-t-e-r. P.O. Box 124 in Pioche, 89043.

11 This is in addition to my comment that I
12 made in Pioche and supplemental to my written
13 comments. I'd like to make three points here
14 tonight. One I made somewhat in Pioche but for the
15 benefit of these folks so that you know and
16 understand, I think the EIS should say right on the
17 front page, introductory, This is the cost of the
18 environmental impact statement process, the NEPA
19 process, and it's all moot. This has already been
20 approved by Harry Reid in the Lincoln County
21 Conservation Recreation Development Act, and all of
22 this money is spent for not. And I think that needs
23 to be on the front page. I think that's right in
24 front so that everybody knows it, not just us but
25 anybody that picks the document up.

1 Secondly, and this is kind of what drove me
2 down here tonight, I'm very offended by your BLM
3 ranger armed and present at these proceedings. It is
4 offensive. It is intimidating and coercive and I
5 formally protest the entire hearing process that has
6 had an armed ranger present. He has no more
7 authority here than I do. He acts under no color of
8 any kind of legal backing. He has no jurisdiction,
9 and it is a personal affront to me and an insult to
10 the people here that you have to have an armed mall
11 cop at the Denny's across the street trying to
12 enforce whatever he's doing.

13 I would ask, and I think it should be
14 included, that any hearing that had a BLM ranger at
15 it should be re-held with local law enforcement. If
16 you need security, have your local law enforcement
17 take care of it, but he does not belong. That is
18 totally and completely inappropriate.

19 It was my intention to show up here armed
20 tonight. Because Nevada is an open carry state, I
21 fully respect his right to carry a firearm in an open
22 manner, as long as I get the same privilege. Now in
23 the school in Pioche, that's a different story. He
24 violated the law and we'll see yet whether the D.A.
25 will take him to court over it or not.

1 Third point, what is the socioeconomic
2 impact of a ghost town? Is that included in your
3 economic analysis of what this project encompasses
4 and what it will do? How do you count the loss in
5 real estate value? How do you count the loss in
6 infrastructure and jobs? How do you count the lost
7 opportunities?

8 You know, it's really kind of strange, in
9 the early days the federal government had policies
10 and laws in place to dispose of land, put people out
11 there so that they can manage it and so that there
12 would be an effective, safe infrastructure throughout
13 the country. Now we're talking about removing
14 people. We're talking about a project that will in
15 effect demolish whatever communities there are here,
16 because water is the lifeblood in the west. It
17 cannot exist without it. Good enough.

18 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Anybody else?

19 Yes, sir?

20 JERRY JOHNSTON: I got here late so I didn't
21 see all these documents.

22 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Could you give us
23 your name and your address please?

24 JERRY JOHNSTON: Jerry Johnston, Alamo,
25 Nevada. J-o-h-n-s-t-o-n. My personal experience, I

1 grew up in Yerington and we had a drought up there
2 and all the farmers that had hay and onions and
3 potatoes went into a fast mode drilling wells to
4 protect their crops after the second or third year.

5 I had a neighbor, well, two neighbors, one
6 had a dairy and he had his well on one corner section
7 of his property, and another neighbor drilled a well
8 up about a quarter of a mile from him. And as soon
9 as within two or three days of him starting to pump
10 that big well, pumping five or six acre feet of water
11 to irrigate his alfalfa field, he dried the
12 dairyman's well up and he had to go in and punch
13 another hole down to the depth that they had drilled
14 the big well just to get water back to that dairy.

15 I've got two or three little pieces of range
16 out here that got real small springs on them, same as
17 John Sanders was saying. Minimum amount of water
18 that runs and runs. If they put these wells in and
19 they drop that water table 10, 12 feet, is that going
20 to dry up all my springs? Part of them is in rough
21 country. The cows ain't -- one good spring there, a
22 little sheep on the other side of the mountain, cows
23 ain't going to go over the mountain to get that other
24 water.

25 So is Las Vegas going to take and reimburse

1 us or put in some kind of a -- something in there
2 that they're going to supply water for our cattle in
3 these places where they're inaccessible? I can't
4 haul water to them. I've got one well out here, I
5 pump the water 720 feet. If they drop ten feet, that
6 well may be dry. Who's going to pay me for hauling
7 all the water out to my cows? I think that needs to
8 be included in the information, that they need to
9 supply the water for our livestock operations.
10 That's all I've got to say.

11 BEVAN LISTER: They'll only charge you
12 25,000 for a connection fee.

13 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Anybody else?
14 Please take the opportunity.

15 PHIL ANDERSON: Can I just ask two questions
16 more?

17 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Let this lady go
18 first and you will.

19 Go ahead.

20 LAURELLE HUGHES: I'm Laurelle,
21 L-a-u-r-e-l-l-e, Hughes, H-u-g-h-e-s. P.O. Box 263,
22 Alamo, Nevada 89001.

23 And my question or my comment, the process,
24 I'm wondering about the -- I'm hearing on the radio
25 that now -- or on TV that southwestern Utah, I'm a

1 Utah person, I'm looking at Penny and thinking Utah.
2 The proponent.

3 DR. MICHAEL DWYER: Water authority.

4 LAURELLE HUGHES: Water authority is saying
5 well, maybe we won't really need it but we want to
6 proceed with it as if we did. And how long is the
7 information from the EIS good? How long would we be
8 sitting and wondering how long, if the water
9 authority will come in 15, 20 years from now and
10 activate their application when they don't need it
11 now. What is the timeframe that we're looking at for
12 permits, rights-of-way and that type of thing being
13 issued?

14 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Anybody else,
15 something specific for the public record?

16 BEVAN LISTER: How long is the data good
17 for? What's the life of this EIS?

18 LAURELLE HUGHES: That's part and parcel
19 really of...

20 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Anybody else,
21 anything else specifically at this point?

22 LAURELLE HUGHES: I would like to make that
23 part of my...

24 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: That's fine. It
25 is. It is. Do you have a couple other questions

1 you'd like on the record?

2 PHIL ANDERSON: I just have a question. And
3 the two questions are this: Las Vegas wants the
4 water so they can grow. What gives them the better
5 chance to take the water so they can grow than we can
6 survive? Have they got more rights than we have?
7 Are we not important?

8 The next question is somebody was paid to do
9 this piece of work, and supposedly they were working
10 to get things accurate, and yet I look at this map on
11 the very front, and Moapa, part of Lincoln County,
12 Caliente seem to be on the Utah side of that line
13 that's right at the top of that picture. If they
14 have that kind of accuracy in what they do, how can
15 we trust that what's in here is even accurate?

16 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Anybody else that
17 hasn't spoken yet?

18 Yes, sir?

19 ED UEHLING: This project reaches such a
20 level of insanity that one has to ask what is really
21 behind this. And I'm sure some of the people know
22 answers to that but I would ask some questions about
23 that. One can only conclude that there are political
24 reasons behind this.

25 And I've heard that Senator Reid, that the

1 development that's going to benefit the most is
2 Coyote Springs, and that Senator Reid is, I think
3 it's a fact that he's very good friends with Harvey
4 Whittemore, the owner of Coyote Springs. And several
5 of his sons work in the same law firm as Harvey
6 Whittemore, and I'm wondering does anyone here know
7 that there's a real connection there and that that's
8 really the reason. Is it true that the L.A. Times
9 article that said he had the power line, apparently
10 there's some power line that was built somewhere in
11 this area, was switched away from that project? Is
12 that true?

13 I mean, are there underhanded, under table
14 deals going on where people on the inside are buying
15 property at a cheap price and then selling it to the
16 water district for a high price? Has the BLM been
17 influenced by Senator Reid? Is that how we're in
18 this position today because he has passed something
19 through the Congress to support this? What is his
20 real motivation in doing that?

21 I would like answers to those questions.
22 Because this can only be explained, this insanity can
23 only be explained by someone making a lot of money
24 somewhere or gaining a lot of power. I'm sure the
25 BLM has some answers.

1 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Anybody else?

2 Mike, would you like to suspend the formal
3 public hearing at this point?

4 DR. MICHAEL DWYER: Anybody else like to
5 speak? All the specialists will stick around here
6 with the maps and so on. You're welcome to stay and
7 visit with those folks.

8 ED UEHLING: You represent the BLM of
9 Nevada, right?

10 DR. MICHAEL DWYER: Correct.

11 ED UEHLING: I happened to be in Salt Lake a
12 few days ago and met with a BLM person up there, and
13 if there's a BLM in Utah, and the BLM in Utah, do
14 they have a different point of view or are they not
15 permitted to have a different point of view? How are
16 those things happening?

17 I know there's a lot of concern there's
18 going to be dust storms and other things in Utah.
19 That's a heavily populated area. The wind stream,
20 the wind, I don't know what you call it, the wind
21 currents from this area over to Utah, there are a lot
22 of people in the path. The reason why, Owens Valley
23 or Death Valley is in the path of the dust storms.

24 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Tell you what, if
25 it's okay with you, I don't think it's appropriate

1 necessarily for Dr. Dwyer to be answering questions,
2 he's here to serve as the public hearing officer, to
3 make sure that your concerns, your comments are
4 heard. But I'm going to ask Penny Woods, who's the
5 project manager for this, for BLM, to try to answer a
6 couple of questions, if you don't mind.

7 Is that all right?

8 PENNY WOODS: Sure. I don't know if you're
9 all interested in hearing these answers, you know,
10 because we can move to the other room and meet with
11 you individually, but I'd be happy to address your
12 concern about BLM in Utah being involved in this
13 project.

14 UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN: I'd like to hear what
15 you have to say.

16 PENNY WOODS: Sure. Sure. And so we have
17 been working closely with BLM in Utah, and any
18 decision that our state director makes, she will make
19 in concert with the state director in Utah.

20 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Let me try to
21 clarify a couple of things here. First of all, I'm
22 just the facilitator, so you can largely ignore me.
23 I was asked by BLM to make sure that you got answers
24 to your questions as best as we can make that happen,
25 make sure that this process works.

1 The only way that I can facilitate anything
2 is if you give me permission to do that. If you've
3 got questions, specific questions you'd like to ask
4 of these experts, feel free to wander up, talk with
5 them, we can address a lot of this.

6 In the comments that everybody just made I
7 heard probably at least 50 or 60 questions in there.
8 This is an exceedingly complex issue. This is really
9 difficult. Most of the questions that you raised are
10 contained in this or the larger environmental impact
11 study, which is 4,000 pages. I don't think anybody
12 wants to stick around here for three days while these
13 guys attempt to give you answers verbally to all of
14 that information, but we can try to provide some of
15 the answers simply if you would like. Would you
16 prefer to do it that way?

17 LYNDA YOUNCE: I want to know if that's
18 available to the public online, that document.

19 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Absolutely. Yes,
20 ma'am. It's available online. The website is
21 contained in both of these documents. The executive
22 summary of it is here that probably answers most of
23 what was raised. And please feel free to grab one of
24 these on your way out, if you'd like to.

25 I know that most of you haven't had a chance

1 to read through it. It's a very technical document.
2 We've tried to translate it as best we can in this to
3 simplify it. It's a lot of technical data, a lot of
4 hydrology. And we can give you the full copy, which
5 is 4,000 pages, but it's also available online and
6 that is a public document.

7 BEVAN LISTER: In the back of the executive
8 summary are the CDs that have --

9 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Absolutely. Right.
10 So you can pull it up there.

11 ED UEHLING: I know we citizens are very
12 stupid compared to you government bigwigs, but why
13 can't we have the answers to the 50 or 60 questions
14 that have been asked?

15 DR. MICHAEL DWYER: Let's adjourn the
16 meeting and you're welcome to go in and --

17 ED UEHLING: No, why do we have to ask
18 individually? Why can't you answer the questions?

19 DR. MICHAEL DWYER: Because this part of the
20 session is to take your comments on this document.

21 ED UEHLING: I know it's very complicated
22 for us stupid people.

23 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: We can try to take
24 these one at a time, but keep in mind we've got 50 or
25 60 --

1 ED UEHLING: Right. You haven't answered a
2 single one. Try to answer some of the questions.

3 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Where would you
4 like to start?

5 ED UEHLING: You've answered one. She
6 answered one question.

7 LYNDA YOUNCE: I will be really honest with
8 you, I am extremely distrusting of my government. I
9 have seen abuses, you have seen abuses. We have seen
10 abuses all the way from the top all the way down to
11 our local police departments. We see abuses every
12 day. I'm sick and tired of being screwed by my
13 government.

14 I want a project that has to happen, not
15 because somebody along the way palms are getting
16 greased or somebody is going to make money off of it,
17 but us little people are going to get the shaft, as
18 we do frequently from our government as of the last
19 75 years. I'm sick and tired of it.

20 I have become an extremely hostile
21 individual, and I can assure you that I am just one
22 of many. I'm tired of it. We've got questions. It
23 seems to me that, yes, there's a lot of paperwork and
24 that's part of the problem. It's so complex that we
25 never really know the truth. And I'm sick of that

1 too. Because every single project that gets started,
2 whether it's at a federal level or a state level, we
3 have these kind of complexities, and I want every,
4 God damn it I hate to say it, but I want everybody's
5 name, I want to know who they are, I want to know
6 what their affiliation is. Because, you know what, I
7 don't trust anyone anymore.

8 And I'm being honest. I'm letting you all
9 know. I go to bed every night wondering who in the
10 hell is running this thing. We ain't got enough
11 money to feed our families let alone start a project
12 like this. Who is running this? And I'm sorry if
13 that offends you, because I'm sure that you all have
14 high integrity with the project that you're doing,
15 but we, the people out here, we're getting a little
16 fed up.

17 And I just really want every question
18 answered and I want to hear them all. Because I've
19 been seeing it going on in a lot of different phases.
20 Connecting the dots, I'm doing it every day in my
21 sleep and I don't like what I see.

22 PENNY WOODS: Something that I think we need
23 to talk about is that a lot of the questions that
24 you've asked are good questions, but we may not know
25 the answers right now, right this minute, and that's

1 why we wanted to get on the record to go back and
2 consider it when we write the final, we need to have
3 considered answers.

4 LYNDA YOUNCE: It says on here something
5 about an extension period for...

6 PENNY WOODS: The comments?

7 LYNDA YOUNCE: Yes.

8 PENNY WOODS: You can have until
9 October 11th.

10 LYNDA YOUNCE: And what if we need more time
11 than that? This is a very large document. There's a
12 lot of questions. That is not enough time.

13 PENNY WOODS: I realize that. I sympathize.

14 LYNDA YOUNCE: Okay. That doesn't help me.

15 PENNY WOODS: That's as much as I could --

16 LYNDA YOUNCE: This is our land. You're
17 supposed to be, in my estimation, working for us and
18 yet I hear that we have a deadline that is not
19 sufficient for we, the people, to examine this issue
20 thoroughly. Now where do you see that is freedom of
21 choice?

22 BEVAN LISTER: In your comments, anyone, in
23 your comments, especially if you submit written
24 comments, state that there is simply not enough time.

25 LYNDA YOUNCE: I need another comment sheet.

1 I filled one out. Give me two please.

2 BEVAN LISTER: Tell them you need an
3 extension until 2019 or whatever.

4 LYNDA YOUNCE: Because I don't feel it's
5 fair to the people.

6 BEVAN LISTER: We need more time. That's a
7 valid comment.

8 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: We have heard that
9 before. Keep in mind that the environmental impact
10 process is designed for one particular purpose:
11 Somebody comes up with an idea and says, We want to
12 do something like move groundwater from the Great
13 Basin to Las Vegas, they have to make an application
14 to the federal agency. The federal agency has to
15 take that seriously, and they've got to look at the
16 pros and cons of that and the consequences.

17 So the question is, this document is a big
18 what-if question, that's all it is. Essentially what
19 this says is what would happen if we did something
20 like this. What are the consequences, what are the
21 options. Not all the answers --

22 LYNDA YOUNCE: So if we don't get pissed off
23 enough, if we don't scream and protect our rights,
24 what happens to us?

25 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: I also want to

1 mention that the law requires you to be involved in
2 this, which is good. It's important that you're
3 involved in this process. But it's not a popularity
4 contest. It's not just a matter of, well, this
5 number of people think it's a good idea and this
6 number of people think it's a bad idea. Fortunately
7 the law is more complicated than that. But what you
8 have to say and the questions that you're raising
9 here are valid questions, no doubt about it.

10 ED UEHLING: Answer them.

11 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: And they have to be
12 answered in this thing.

13 ED UEHLING: Answer them now.

14 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Some of those
15 answers can't be answered here.

16 ED UEHLING: Okay, fine. Answer the ones
17 that you can answer.

18 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Let's start with
19 the first one. What's your first question?

20 ED UEHLING: Okay. What are the reductions
21 in flows in the Colorado River that they're talking
22 about?

23 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: What are the
24 reductions of flows in the Colorado River?

25 ED UEHLING: Yeah. This first page, the

1 whole basis of the project is a lie, okay. What are
2 the reductions in flows?

3 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: How many of you
4 believe that there have been reductions in flows in
5 the Colorado River?

6 PHIL ANDERSON: There's been several periods
7 of reduction in flows in the Colorado River.

8 ED UEHLING: It goes up and down.

9 PHIL ANDERSON: It goes up and down and
10 that's true whenever moisture is involved.

11 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: But the fact of the
12 matter, I think most of you would agree, there are
13 more straws in the aquifer, more people taking water
14 out of that river on a regular basis. We're going
15 into a period where a lot of scientists, not
16 everybody agrees, but an awful lot of scientists say
17 that we're going into a period of an extended drought
18 where there's going to be less water available out of
19 that river. You don't have to believe that, but
20 generally speaking most scientists believe that that
21 is indeed the case. Las Vegas believes that they're
22 going to grow and they don't have enough water to
23 sustain what they think is going to happen in the
24 future.

25 PHIL ANDERSON: To take your example, if you

1 put too many straws in this aquifer here, we're going
2 to be in the same situation.

3 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Absolutely right.
4 The fact is we're not here to debate this. This is
5 not the time to debate it because the agency isn't
6 here defending itself.

7 LYNDA YOUNCE: I need to see this. When I
8 first moved here, I was involved with the chamber and
9 we got a piece of paper that said that this valley
10 can only grow to this extent, 2,000 some odd people.
11 Okay, that's not very much. We're very dependent on
12 the water here. Every little community all the way
13 up the state is the same as we are.

14 Now let me ask you this question: Who
15 becomes more valid as a citizen of the United States
16 and a citizen of the state and of each county, the
17 one down there that has three million or we? Whose
18 voice seems to be louder in this condition? That's a
19 question I don't like.

20 BEVAN LISTER: I know the answer to that
21 one.

22 LYNDA YOUNCE: That's a question I have a
23 problem with.

24 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Let me try to
25 address it. That's a valid question. And we've

1 heard that asked a number of different ways for the
2 past two weeks. But the fact of the matter is that
3 Nevada state law gives the authority to the Nevada
4 State Engineer to decide for the most part who gets
5 water where and where that water goes.

6 LYNDA YOUNCE: How do I find out about the
7 Nevada engineer? I want to know who he is.

8 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: How can you find
9 out about that? There's a series of public
10 meetings -- a series of public hearings are coming up
11 on this issue that are going to determine where the
12 groundwater and how much groundwater can actually be
13 taken starting in September and running through
14 November in Carson City, and I would strongly urge
15 you to be involved in that.

16 ED UEHLING: They're not going to be down in
17 this area?

18 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: No, they're in
19 Carson City. Unfortunately they're in Carson City.
20 That's where that decision is going to be made, but
21 there's a public process and there's going to be a
22 variety of meetings and hearings.

23 PENNY WOODS: It's described on page six in
24 the newsletter.

25 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Yes, it's in the

1 newsletter and it's also in the back of that Q and A
2 here.

3 JOHN SANDERS: It almost seems like we're
4 getting the cart before the horse, because as of yet
5 the state water engineer hasn't given them a drop, so
6 why are we even talking about this now? Until water
7 has been allocated, we shouldn't even be talking
8 about a pipeline. And the allocation of that water
9 probably isn't going to happen for years and years
10 and years, which takes me back to Mrs. Hughes'
11 comment of all this stuff we're putting together will
12 be so outdated by the time that happens.

13 PENNY WOODS: March of 2012 the decision
14 will be made.

15 ED UEHLING: Which decision?

16 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: The state water
17 engineer is scheduled to make the decision in
18 March 2001.

19 PENNY WOODS: Bevan suggested that I go over
20 the EIS process with you all, and so I thought I'd
21 quickly do that. And I don't know who was here in
22 2005 when the original scoping on this project was
23 heard, but there were a series of meetings, and I
24 believe there was one here in Alamo that asked for
25 everybody's input on what we should look at when we

1 wrote this document.

2 And you all answered, and you came to our
3 meetings and you submitted testimony to our court
4 reporter at that time, or our note taker, I think we
5 had both at different meetings. And it's in one, on
6 the disk in chapter one and two of a listing of what
7 you told us very, very, very summarized. But the
8 scoping report is on our website. And if you all
9 haven't looked at our website, I would suggest that
10 you look at the wealth of information.

11 And Kim Dow, our very talented person in our
12 office, has studiously put information on that so
13 that everybody can understand all the aspects of this
14 project. And we track the water rights process
15 alongside it. And as you know, they're intricately
16 involved with each other, but they are separate, and
17 that's the problem is that you all are so angry about
18 the water.

19 And BLM, we're talking about a pipeline.
20 We're talking about this line here. And we
21 understand that we need to disclose to you what the
22 impacts of the taking of the water, and we have tried
23 to do that, and that was one of the things we heard
24 from you all is we need some way to understand what
25 the affects of this water, the taking of this water.

1 And so we have several alternatives, seven,
2 and the seven alternatives look at different ways
3 that the water engineer could go. One is give SNWA
4 everything they've asked for. You know, that's the
5 one that SNWA came in with their proposal.
6 Everything they've asked for.

7 And then, you know, we kind of think that
8 the state engineer isn't going to do that, you know.
9 And Kimberly is back there just kind of looking at
10 her foot, you know. But so we have, you know, the
11 state engineer, you know, there was this back and
12 forth with the state engineer, and the State, the
13 Senator, the Supreme Court. But he originally
14 granted some water rights in this area and in Spring
15 Valley.

16 And so we took what he said before and we
17 analyzed that. And then we analyzed where we thought
18 maybe he would, you know, he would authorize some
19 wells that were kind of disbursed across the valley
20 but SNWA's applications have specific points of
21 diversion. Now we kind of don't think SNWA really
22 wants to pump there, and they'll eventually go back
23 to the state engineer and ask for more wells.

24 But for now, you know -- so that was another
25 alternative. We did an alternative where you've

1 heard us talk about the Lincoln County Conservation
2 Recreation and Development Act. That, you know, was
3 passed. It is something that we must uphold. It's a
4 law and it was passed by our own Congress.

5 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Can you explain
6 what that says.

7 PENNY WOODS: It does tell us, it says BLM
8 grants a right-of-way to SNWA in this corridor, and
9 it was I believe this line, up to the Lincoln County
10 line.

11 LYNDA YOUNCE: Did we, the people, get any
12 discussion with BLM or anybody in that process?

13 PENNY WOODS: It doesn't have --

14 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: This is
15 something -- this was something --

16 WADE POULSEN: We did not have much say.

17 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: This was something
18 that was passed by Congress.

19 LYNDA YOUNCE: I think that's where my fear
20 is coming from. This is where I'm coming from.
21 People above me are now running my life and telling
22 me what I have to do.

23 KIM DOW: I hear you. I hear you. I just
24 wanted to respond that you asked if BLM offered any
25 comments.

1 LYNDA YOUNCE: That's where my fear is
2 coming from.

3 PENNY WOODS: Well, you know, we also didn't
4 see that one coming, and not the people on the
5 ground, you know, maybe some people in Washington
6 did.

7 So we got this law and it basically says do
8 it. And so -- where was I going with this -- oh, so
9 we have an alternative that goes up to, you know,
10 basically implements that law and that law only.

11 And then we have another one. We know that
12 SNWA previously got water rights in Spring Valley, so
13 we have an alternative that just says Spring Valley
14 and Delamar, Dry and Cave, which is the valleys down
15 here in Lincoln County, and so we have that one.

16 And I think I've probably covered them all.
17 So, you know, we took the scoping. We implemented
18 and considered and it took quite a while to really
19 take everything that we heard and put it into this
20 document. And, you know, we've been listening or
21 really trying to listen to folks. And I myself have
22 gone out and talked to a lot of folks and even, you
23 know, we had a scoping period of like seven months in
24 2005. And when we didn't, you know, when it was
25 taking us a while, you know, we were kind of working

1 out different strategies with other agencies and
2 state and local governments, we continued to get
3 information from the public and from other agencies.
4 We continued to add that into the document.

5 So we've got what we've got. And we know
6 it's got a few warts and a few holes, there's a few
7 mistakes. And you've all asked some really good
8 questions. I think, you know, we need to take that
9 information and build on this. And I know that
10 there's a real concern because not everything is
11 known about this project. Even SNWA doesn't know
12 everything about this project.

13 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: What don't you
14 know?

15 PENNY WOODS: So what we don't know is
16 exactly where the wells are going to be. You know,
17 what we were actually considering is this tube, or as
18 the Great Basin Water Network likes to call it, the
19 straw.

20 BEVAN LISTER: Penny, I understand you say
21 that but if you will go and look at the monitor sites
22 that you approved and those wells that are drilled,
23 those are production wells, those are not monitoring
24 wells. Guaranteed. I'm a licensed well driller.
25 Those are production wells.

1 PENNY WOODS: Did they come in with water?

2 BEVAN LISTER: We had this discussion up in
3 Pioche. All of that information is, what's the word,
4 proprietary information.

5 PHIL ANDERSON: A lot of them were drilled
6 on Delamar Valley cattle permits, and I saw them test
7 pumping all of them, full pipes of water shooting out
8 20 feet, so they came in.

9 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: This is the
10 proponent drilling these wells?

11 BEVAN LISTER: Yes. Monitoring wells under
12 a permit.

13 PENNY WOODS: Or test wells?

14 BEVAN LISTER: Well, no --

15 PHIL ANDERSON: They're monitoring wells.

16 BEVAN LISTER: -- because as a monitor or an
17 exploration well they don't have to file logs with
18 the State of Nevada so it maintains the propriety of
19 the information. Only -- I don't know, did you find
20 out if you had information or not?

21 WADE POULSEN: Yes, I do.

22 BEVAN LISTER: Good deal. But that
23 information is not available like on the state
24 engineer's website or those kind of things because
25 those wells were not logged.

1 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Could I ask, does
2 BLM have any authority over that?

3 PENNY WOODS: Well, we granted the
4 right-of-ways.

5 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Just the
6 right-of-way.

7 PENNY WOODS: The Ely district.

8 WADE POULSEN: State engineer controls how
9 it's drilled, where it's drilled and how much. If
10 it's done a pump test on it and all that other kind
11 of stuff, look at the state engineer.

12 PENNY WOODS: But did we get that data into
13 the model?

14 WADE POULSEN: Yes, we did.

15 PENNY WOODS: So the data is in the model.
16 You might actually be able to find it in the reports.

17 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: So the information
18 is used in this?

19 PENNY WOODS: Yeah.

20 WADE POULSEN: The information was
21 available --

22 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: What you've got
23 now.

24 WADE POULSEN: What information we were able
25 to use for the model, for the gentleman who said that

1 SNWA did the model, no, we did the model under
2 direction from SNWA.

3 PHIL ANDERSON: Bought and paid for it?
4 Bought and paid for all we need to do --

5 WADE POULSEN: And I get it right.

6 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: They paid for it
7 but this is something that's peer reviewed by a lot
8 of independent people.

9 WADE POULSEN: Right. We, the BLM --

10 JOHN SANDERS: I guarantee you'll have some
11 peers show up in Carson City disputing everything you
12 said.

13 WADE POULSEN: That's the nature of models.

14 JOHN SANDERS: It is the nature of models,
15 it's the nature of what we're doing; however, I would
16 like to say that along with these monitoring wells,
17 the state statute says monitoring wells can only be
18 three inches. These are 21 inches.

19 BEVAN LISTER: Unless they have a waiver.

20 JOHN SANDERS: Unless they granted a waiver.
21 The waiver was not granted when they drilled the
22 wells. The question wasn't asked until a public
23 meeting after the wells were in the ground by Mike
24 Davis up there, and then they said, We didn't even
25 know about that in the meeting, and then magically

1 everything appeared.

2 PENNY WOODS: Then you got waivers.

3 JOHN SANDERS: But here's my question: To
4 grant that right-of-way for them to drill those
5 monitoring wells that were actually preproduction
6 wells, the BLM advocated their responsibility by
7 granting those right-of-ways because they were not in
8 legal compliance with state law.

9 We are going through a little pipeline on
10 irrigation water that we own that goes across a small
11 stretch of BLM land, we're five and a half years into
12 it, not nearly as far along as these guys are with
13 this huge project. We're not going to disturb
14 anything, it's our water and it's between two pieces
15 of private property. Everything is in compliance,
16 and every step of the way the BLM is questioning us,
17 Are we in legal compliance with the state water
18 engineer and making us provide a letter from the
19 state water engineer every step of the way. That
20 obviously did not happen. The BLM advocated that
21 responsibility when those wells went in without a
22 waiver and without you checking on them.

23 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Hang on a minute,
24 that's a charge. Hang on guys.

25 JOHN SANDERS: The state engineer let them

1 have it. Let them have it.

2 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Do you think that's
3 the case, BLM advocated responsibility on that?

4 JOHN SANDERS: Well, you don't even know how
5 big the well is. You don't even know if there's any
6 water in it.

7 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: What was BLM's
8 authority over it?

9 JOHN SANDERS: The right-of-way to drill it.

10 PENNY WOODS: It's FLPMA.

11 JOHN SANDERS: It was a NEPA process.

12 PENNY WOODS: Yeah.

13 JOHN SANDERS: There should have been an EIS
14 on the right-of-way.

15 PENNY WOODS: Right.

16 BEVAN LISTER: Because it's an exploration.

17 JOHN SANDERS: It doesn't necessarily have
18 to be an EIS, it could be an EA, it could be in a CX.

19 PENNY WOODS: It would have been an EA. Ely
20 district did that.

21 JOHN SANDERS: They're the ones holding us
22 up. Somebody has standing, somebody doesn't.

23 PENNY WOODS: Did I get to the end of my
24 piece?

25 BEVAN LISTER: I don't know. What Penny was

1 trying to say is that scoping five years ago kind of
2 set the ground floor on what questions they were
3 going to address in the EIS process. And then they
4 gathered science and dealt with other agencies and
5 things in the process, and so they've come out with a
6 draft document of basically the science, for what
7 it's worth, but really to address the questions
8 raised in scoping.

9 And so now they have these sets of hearings
10 to hear other questions, to hear comments on what
11 they have compiled and then they'll go back and
12 supposedly answer those questions, look at those
13 issues that have been raised and then it comes back
14 as a final EIS and then you get to comment on it
15 again. That's kind of how the process works.

16 It's really elongated here because we've got
17 six years in this part of it. I imagine we'll be at
18 least a year in redoing the final and so we're going
19 to be out here some more time but that's how the
20 process works. For us, most importantly, and what
21 NEPA allows us to comment on and what forces the BLM
22 to recognize is affects to the environment and the
23 custom, culture and economy of the area.

24 So if you have questions, if you have
25 concerns and comments, focus on those areas: Custom,

1 culture, economy and environment. And, I mean, yeah,
2 we can argue the water part of it but it's a moot
3 point with the BLM. That's a whole other venue with
4 the state engineer but the basis for what we can do
5 is in those areas.

6 And I think the economic questions, there's
7 no way, they can't project. You can't even try to
8 model what the economic impacts to this county or
9 White Pine County a hundred years down the road might
10 be if a project like this goes through. You simply
11 can't do it.

12 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: You did a pretty
13 nice summary on this I think.

14 BEVAN LISTER: Sorry.

15 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: No, I think you
16 summed it up really well. But there's one other
17 thing that I want to point out though. I think
18 there's an awful lot of implication here that somehow
19 BLM sort of thinks this is a great idea and there's
20 no problems with this. But if you take the time to
21 read through just this executive summary, you're
22 going to see an awful lot of data I think that
23 clearly points out consequences to this. BLM isn't
24 saying this is a good idea or a bad idea, its job is
25 to look at this very, very objectively. It's a

1 what-if answer. And I think an awful lot of things
2 have been pointed out in this.

3 BEVAN LISTER: And I agree with that. And
4 the premise that most of the information and
5 conclusions that you brought out, no argument with,
6 my problem is is it doesn't matter. It's all a moot
7 point because it's a done deal. So, I mean, I
8 understand how all this process works, but Harry Reid
9 already bypassed the process.

10 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Well, that may be
11 above our collective pay grades.

12 Yes, sir, you had a question?

13 RAY SCHMUTZ: What was the time scope
14 considered in doing this EIS? Ray Schmutz,
15 S-c-h-m-u-t-z.

16 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: What's your
17 address?

18 RAY SCHMUTZ: HCR 61 Box 75, Hiko, Nevada
19 89017.

20 PENNY WOODS: Time scope of the EIS?

21 RAY SCHMUTZ: Yes.

22 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: No, time scope of
23 what this looks at, the consequence.

24 RAY SCHMUTZ: Yeah, what are you looking at
25 when you got --

1 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: This goes out like
2 a year, two years.

3 PENNY WOODS: Okay, so we looked at full
4 build-out, which we define as when they -- if this
5 was approved, when all the pipeline was built, so all
6 the pipeline is in, oh, this one, all the way to
7 Snake Valley, and so it's about 2050.

8 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: 2050.

9 PENNY WOODS: So that's the first time scope
10 then we added 75 years to that.

11 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: 2125.

12 PENNY WOODS: And then we added 200 years,
13 so another 125 years.

14 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Right. So this
15 thing looked at the short-term and the really
16 long-term consequences of this.

17 RAY SCHMUTZ: At the long-term consequences
18 considered in the overall analysis?

19 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Part of it.

20 PENNY WOODS: So, you know, Kim just
21 whispered to me that I should mention the
22 programmatic part of the EIS, and we did, you know,
23 the pipeline itself, just, you know, this here is
24 what we analyzed in detail. So all the impacts of
25 building a pipeline, putting it in the ground, the

1 white sage issues, the, you know, subsidence from
2 building that large of a pipeline, those sorts of
3 things, the things that you all have dealt with when
4 putting pipelines on your ranches, okay.

5 Then there was this programmatic scope of
6 this, which was this overarching, what is the affects
7 of the water, you know, when you draw that much water
8 out of an underground aquifer, what happens. And so
9 we analyzed that. That's the programmatic part.
10 There's also future facilities that we don't quite
11 know where they're at. You know, the wells, where
12 are they? We need little pumps.

13 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Where would they
14 be.

15 PENNY WOODS: Yeah, they need little pumps,
16 they need power, they need roads to them, they need
17 little pipelines to them.

18 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: And before any of
19 those can be done, what has to happen?

20 PENNY WOODS: We need another EIS. You
21 know, everybody is going to have multiple chances at
22 looking at this over and over again. You're going to
23 get sick of this.

24 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Before it goes into
25 any of those details, we'd be back here. BLM would

1 have to be back here.

2 PENNY WOODS: Yeah. So one thing I did want
3 to get back to was the Lincoln County Conservation
4 Recreation Act. And Bevan has asked us a couple of
5 times, you know, it's a done deal, all that. And so,
6 you know, I do say that that law does require that we
7 grant this, but it does not say how. And so we have
8 included in the EIS a number of mitigation measures.
9 I think it gets to your concerns about how is it
10 going to be done. And we called for a number of
11 plans and reports to be written before, you know, one
12 teaspoon of dirt ever comes off the desert.

13 And so I would really like a good, thorough
14 review of those mitigation measures and maybe
15 suggestions for new ones, because that's going to be
16 the key to this. It's not, you know, if we do or if
17 we don't, it's how.

18 ED UEHLING: No one has answered the
19 question as to why an armed guard has to be here.
20 I'd be interested in that. And also there was a
21 pipeline -- there was, I think there was a pipeline
22 built from Coyote Springs that the water district
23 brought water.

24 WADE POULSEN: I can answer that question.

25 ED UEHLING: So it's true, okay. So does

1 that pipeline go through BLM land? Was that pipeline
2 approved by BLM? And what's the deal with that now
3 that Las Vegas doesn't need water?

4 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: One at a time.

5 WADE POULSEN: The answer to your question,
6 there is a pipeline, a 30-inch pipeline that goes
7 from Coyote Springs basin, water basin, to the Bowman
8 reservoir in Moapa, and that is water rights that
9 were given to the Coyote Springs investment that were
10 in the basin in Coyote Springs. The state engineer
11 granted them the opportunity to pump that water, to
12 do pump testing. You have to pump test your wells to
13 see if your basin can sustain the pumping.

14 They were given the amount of time to pump
15 it. It cost them about \$30 million to build that
16 pipeline down to the Bowman reservoir. They pumped
17 that water specifically to see what the water table
18 in Coyote Springs water basin will do. They released
19 it into the Bowman reservoir, which now goes through
20 Moapa irrigation system and then ends up in Lake
21 Mead.

22 Southern Nevada Water Authority has done
23 this. They get return credits that they can pull out
24 of Lake Mead because that water is going into it so
25 they can pull the water out. That is a period of

1 time pumping. I don't know the exact time. I
2 believe it's a year or maybe two years that they can
3 pump that, and then they receive data from the
4 pumping of that well as to what the water table is.
5 They started pumping last fall, this last fall.
6 Early winter is when they actually started to pump
7 that water. It took them a year or so to get the
8 pipeline built.

9 ED UEHLING: When I've driven up here
10 before, one of Pahrnagat lakes was looked like it
11 was dry or was empty, and when I drove today it
12 looked like it was full. Does this pipeline have
13 anything to do with that?

14 LAURELLE HUGHES: No, it was actually the
15 one reservoir, they had some problems with the dam
16 and they had to empty it of water to do some work on
17 the dam, so the water went on down wherever it goes.

18 ED UEHLING: But not to Coyote Spring? Not
19 for this pipeline?

20 LAURELLE HUGHES: No.

21 VICTORIA BARR: The refuge gets the water
22 sometimes. Victoria Barr, field manager, Caliente,
23 for Bureau of Land Management.

24 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: For BLM.

25 VICTORIA BARR: It's shared use of water for

1 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Pahrnagat, the
2 National Wildlife Refuge and then local uses of that
3 water for agricultural purpose.

4 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Does that satisfy?
5 Does that answer your question?

6 ED UEHLING: Yeah, there's more important
7 questions than that one. What about this armed
8 guard?

9 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: I'll tell you what,
10 I made the request. I do public meetings for a
11 living. I mean, that's what I do, I facilitate
12 public meetings. I've been doing this for 20 or
13 25 years now. The fact of the matter is that we live
14 in a new world. And most of the time when we deal
15 with controversial issues, it's just really helpful
16 to have somebody there to make sure that nobody gets
17 hurt.

18 Do you think crazy things go on in public
19 meetings? Have you seen evidence of that? Did
20 anybody read the newspaper, watch television, see
21 these things go on? It's a tough issue. There are a
22 lot of people here that are damn pissed about this on
23 one side or the other. And when you get groups of
24 people like that together, bad things can happen. So
25 I made the request of BLM and said that I think it

1 would be appropriate to have somebody there just
2 managing security. So you can pin it on me and I'm
3 sorry.

4 PENNY WOODS: I do apologize. You know,
5 it's not any particular group. And you guys have
6 been great. You know, you've been very well behaved,
7 so thank you.

8 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: And we didn't pick
9 and choose the meetings to do this. I just said,
10 We're going to have all these meetings, we should
11 probably have somebody there, not jackbooted thugs
12 running around the building but somebody there just
13 to make sure somebody doesn't get hurt, that's all.

14 BEVAN LISTER: And the reason I bring the
15 issue up is because we have local law enforcement --

16 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Absolutely.

17 BEVAN LISTER: -- that have legal
18 jurisdiction that could arrest somebody. He can't.
19 Sorry, he has no authority.

20 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Valid point.

21 BEVAN LISTER: And his exercising authority
22 on someone would create far more controversy in this
23 group than you will just saying, hey, we need to
24 settle down.

25 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: I understand. And

1 that's where it usually starts and that's usually all
2 it really takes. I mean, reasonable people do
3 reasonable things.

4 BEVAN LISTER: He is more likely to insight
5 problems in this setting.

6 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Well, you notice
7 he's also outside.

8 BEVAN LISTER: Well, he is tonight because
9 there was no room but in Pioche he was sitting right
10 there. And I'm sorry but, like I said, it's more --
11 that situation is more likely to insight a problem
12 than it is to settle a problem.

13 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Valid point.

14 BEVAN LISTER: If you want to settle the
15 problem, I know the county sheriff, I've got his cell
16 phone in my address book, he would have been more
17 than happy to be here or send a deputy. Him and I
18 discussed it and it's a simple thing just to say,
19 hey, we're having a meeting, would you send somebody
20 down.

21 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Valid point. I
22 stand chastised.

23 What else?

24 LYNDA YOUNCE: Are you going to be having
25 more of these meetings to keep us informed?

1 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: Are we going to be
2 having more of these meetings? You know, you raise a
3 good point, because what happens from here --

4 PENNY WOODS: Let me tell you, you know, the
5 Baker people don't have any problem calling me up on
6 the phone and say, Penny, we need you to come out and
7 give us an update. You know, you guys can do the
8 same, I will be out here, you know, any time and
9 we'll sit down and we'll go over what the latest is,
10 what I know, you know.

11 I would invite you to stay tuned to our
12 website. But, you know, my number is all over that
13 website. Kim's number is on it. You know, you can
14 get a hold of us. I've got cards somewhere.

15 KIM DOW: For those of you on the mailing
16 list, we started publishing a newsletter at the very
17 beginning that just talked about the very basics of
18 the project. We're on newsletter number eight now,
19 which is the one being handed out here. Each one
20 just adds to the next one, so when someone new comes
21 to the mailing list, they get all of the past ones.
22 Realizing that some of the information has changed
23 over the years so the first may not have all the
24 accurate information anymore but at least we have the
25 whole history.

1 And those newsletters are used to update
2 everyone on what's going on, or most of the topics in
3 the newsletters come from the people when they see
4 the newsletter, they email me and ask questions or
5 have topics that they want us to address. That's
6 where I'd say 90 percent of the topics that we cover
7 come from is people who have been asking us
8 questions. So if you're on our mailing list, you'll
9 be getting those newsletters.

10 PENNY WOODS: So feel free to call me and we
11 can, you know, sit down and talk about what's going
12 on, you know, at that point in time.

13 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: You'll come back
14 out here?

15 PENNY WOODS: And I'll come back, yeah.

16 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: And if you'd like
17 to pull a group of people together to meet with like
18 this, that would be fine, right?

19 PENNY WOODS: Yeah, so I'm more than willing
20 to do that.

21 FACILITATOR JOHN GODEC: What else? You
22 know, if anybody has got something that they would
23 like to put on the formal public record, and you'd
24 prefer to do it privately rather than publicly,
25 Debbie is going to be here for a bit. Please feel

1 free to sit down with her. If you've got individual
2 questions, these folks are going to be back over here
3 for a while yet as well. Thanks for coming. It's a
4 tough one.

5 (Thereupon the proceedings
6 were concluded at 7:19 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF NEVADA)

SS:

COUNTY OF NYE)

I, Deborah Ann Hines, certified court reporter, do hereby certify that I took down in shorthand (Stenotype) all of the proceedings had in the before-entitled matter at the time and place indicated; and that thereafter said shorthand notes were transcribed into typewriting at and under my direction and supervision and the foregoing transcript constitutes a full, true and accurate record of the proceedings had.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my hand this 14th day of September, 2011.

Deborah Ann Hines, CCR #473, RPR